In this accident, 2 persons lost their lives, 29 sustained grievous injuries and 58 simple injuries. An ex-gratia amount of Rs. 30,250 has been paid to the next of kin of the dead and injured.

The Commissioner of Railway Safety is inquiring into this accident.

Some of the important steps taken to prevent accidents are:—

(i) Intensification of field inspections by supervisors and officers.

(ii) Formation of multi-disciplinary teams to inspect accident-prone areas and suggest corrective measures.

(iii) Counselling of staff especially Drivers, Assistant Station Masters, etc.

(iv) Revamping training programmes and emphasis on Refresher Courses.

(v) Deterrent punishments to those found responsible for accidents due to gross negligence.

(vi) Educational campaigns for the staff and publicity for the road users.

(vii) Induction of sophisticated technology as a counter-check to human lapses.

(viii) Improved maintenance of Track and Rolling Stock.

Proposal to raise fares by the Indian Airlines

77. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines is incurring losses on short routes;

(b) whether all the short routes are uneconomical to operate;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines has recently submitted a proposal for increasing the fare;

(d) whether Government are considering to delegate the powers to Indian Airlines to increase provisionally fare rates in future; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(e) Does not arise.

Crash landing of IA Boeing 731 so Delhi

78. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 plane from Srinagar crash landed in Delhi on the 19th June, 1988 and its engine caught fire;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof and whether any inquiry has been conducted into the incident and the action taken by Government in the matter; and

(c) what measures Government

propose to take to avoid recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) There was no loss of life but damage to aircraft is to be assessed by General Insurance Corporation of India. Enquiry into the accident has been ordered by the Government.

(c) Preventive measures depend upon the recommendations made in the enquiry report.

Hike in fees in engineering and polytechnics colleges

79. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a substantial hike in fees for engineering colleges and polytechnics has been proposed by a working group appointed by Government; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) A Working Group was set up by the Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education to work out the norms for tuition fees for diploma and degree courses. The report of the Working Group was considered by the All India Council for Technical Education at its last meeting held on 6th July, 1988. The Council has referred the matter to its Executive Committee to examine the same in detail.

Losses of Air India

80. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the operations of Air India are incurring huge losses; and

(b) if so, what remedial measures are being taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Provisional results for the year 1987-88 indicate that Air India is likely to incur a loss of Rs. 43.41 crores.

(b) In order to improve the performance and to reduce the losses, Air India have taken the following steps:—

(i) Introduction of faster non-stop flights with effect from 15th February, 1988 to improve the service;

(ii) Special Cell has been created for business class traffic with a view to improve the yields;

(iii) Efforts are being made to improve inflight service and ground handling;

(iv) Computerised baggage checking facilities have been introduced at Bombay and Delhi airport and this facility will be further extended to other airports;

(v) Efforts are being made to improve servicing in cargo.

(vi) Attention is being focussed on aircraft maintenance to improve the punctuality of flights;

(vii) Profit Committees have been set up in regional headquarters level to revelw the costs and find out ways and means to increase revenue.

Road Accidents caused by Private Buses in Delhi

81. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private buses deployed by DTC to